

22  
**CLAIMS**

1. Use of xenon in the preparation of a medicament for providing analgesia in a newborn subject and/or a fetal subject.
2. Use according to claim 1 wherein the newborn subject is a mammal in the first four weeks after birth.
3. Use according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the newborn or fetal subject is a human.
4. Use according to any preceding claim wherein the xenon is used in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.
5. Use according to any preceding claim wherein the xenon is administered in combination with a sedative, an anaesthetic agent or a further analgesic agent.
6. Use according to any preceding claim wherein the medicament is in gaseous form.
7. Use according to claim 6 wherein the medicament is in the form of a 20 to 70% v/v xenon/air mixture.
8. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the medicament is in liquid form.
9. Use according to claim 8 wherein the medicament is in the form of a lipid emulsion.

10. Use according to claim 8 or claim 9 wherein the medicament is in a form suitable for intravenous, neuraxial or transdermal delivery.
11. A method of providing analgesia in a newborn subject, the method comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of xenon.
12. A method of providing analgesia in a fetal subject, the method comprising administering to the mother of the fetal subject a therapeutically effective amount of xenon for both the mother and the fetal subject.
13. A method according to claim 11 or claim 12 wherein the xenon is administered in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.
14. A method according to any one of claims 11 to 13 wherein the xenon is administered in the form of a 20 to 70 % v/v xenon/air mixture.
15. A method according to any one of claims 11 to 13 wherein the xenon is administered in the form of a lipid emulsion.
16. A method according to any one of claims 11 to 13 or 15 wherein the xenon is administered intravenously, neuraxially or transdermally.